

damping plug 14, likewise consisting of elastic plastic, is attached below the nut 8. When the spring assemblies 11 are highly compressed, the dampening bush 13 and the damping plug 14 can in each case butt onto the associated spring plate 12 with their side facing away from the piston guide 9. They then damp the further compressive movement in such a way that the situation can be avoided where the spring assemblies 11 are blocked together and an excessive impact action is consequently exerted on the working machine.

*Paragraph beginning on page 3, line 36:*

In a particularly advantageous embodiment, the piston guide can be produced from plastic in one piece together with a dampening bush, preferably with two dampening bushes. In addition to the mass reduction mentioned, this leads to a simplification of the production method and therefore likewise to a cost reduction.

*Paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1 as follows:*

This and other features of the invention are explained in more detail below with the aid of the figures, of which:

Figure 1        shows a sectional illustration of part of a tamping machine according to the invention;

Figure 1a       shows a sectional illustration of part of another embodiment according to the invention; and

Figure 2        shows a part section through a known tamping machine, appropriately labeled "Prior Art".